

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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HUL-A- 1033

2003

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8 JUN 1954

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INFO: PBSUCCESS, Headquarters

KUOVNN

Salvadoran Note on Expulsion of Salvadoran Laborers from Guatemala

Ref: HUL-A- 745

1. You have undoubtedly noted the article in Diario Latino of 3 June 1954 and its possible KUOVNN use in connection with the recent offer of land to Salvadoran campesinos by Guatemala's DAN chief, Alfonso Martinez.

2. The attachment is a script used on Sherwood. You may not use it in any of your controlled papers or otherwise in its present form but you are free to exploit the ideas in any other manner.

JEROME C. DUNBAR

JCD/ SCW/ sgw

7 June 1954

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It was just a little over a month ago that Salvador's Diario Latino carried the full text of an interview with Alfonso Martinez, the director of Guatemala's DAN, in which he made the grandiose offer of land to 2000 Salvadorans. At the time we were slightly skeptical of such an offer: it was obvious that Arbenz's regime was entering upon a stormy period and that the offer of land was a propaganda move, an effort to gain the good will of the Salvadoran Government which finds it difficult to find work for its many campesinos as well as an attempt to bribe more workers from the rich coffers of the Agrarian Reform Law.

The offer to potential Salvadoran settlers left nothing to be desired -- they were to enjoy all the prerogatives which in theory at least the Guatemalans themselves enjoyed under the Agrarian Reform Law, namely land and the technical assistance and credit necessary to work it profitably. The offer sounds too good to be true. It was.

On May 31 Guatemalan newspapers carried the news that twenty Salvadoran workers in the western zone have been arrested. The Government hinted at a new plot and for their own prestige they could not admit that it was Guatemalans who were involved: as Hitler blamed the nation's ills on the Jews, so the arbencistas claim the new plot was managed by mysterious "tecnicos extranjeros". Those Salvadorans who had accepted in good faith the offer of the Guatemalan government were the obvious target. Of course they aren't really technicians, they are just good farmers, but since there was no other culprit handy the Salvadorans had to suffer. Some of the farmers had already planted their crops but this was no consideration to the arbencistas who thrive on illegal acts.

But Salvador could not and would not permit Guatemala to trample upon the rights of her citizens in so blatant a fashion. She called home her ambassador to Guatemala, Colonel Jose Alberto Funes, and discussed the matter with him for four days, from May 31 to June 3. On June 3 the newspapers made public the fact that the Salvadoran Chancery, acting on the precise instructions of the President of the Republic, Colonel Oscar Osorio, has sent a note to Guatemala protesting this action. Actually the note is but a straw in the wind for Salvador, as well as Guatemala's other neighbors, can expect an increase in degree and number of such illegal actions as the arbencistas struggle to maintain their regime in the face of domestic and foreign opposition.

Expulsion of the Salvadorans from frontier zones is cause for a note to the Guat Chancery

The Salvadoran Chancery, on the definite instructions of the President of the Republic, Colonel Oscar Osorio, has sent a note to Guatemala with regard to the expulsion of Salvadorans ~~mm~~ by the authorities of the neighboring Republic.

Unofficially we have been informed that the trip of Colonel Jose Alberto Funes, Ambassador from Salvador in Guatemala, was prompted by this matter-- Funes remained here from Monday until yesterday.

Since the expulsion of the North American priest Sebastian Buccelato, the government of Guatemala announced that it was going to proceed against all those who did not have their immigration papers in order. It was for this reason that Salvadorans, who had several years of residence, but who had never concerned themselves with complying with the Immigration Laws have been leaving.

But then the problem came up in the frontier areas from where numerous peasants have been dispossessed, they had been earning their living raising cereals on lands which they rented from Guatemalans.

Yesterday there were reports ~~against~~ about the measures taken against 20 compatriots, owners of cultivated land on the frontier.

The note sent by the Salv government must necessarily lead to an understanding so that those salvadorans will not suffer more difficulties and will not lose the crops which they have planted in that territory.

Expulsión de Salvadoreños de las zonas fronterizas MOTIVA UNA NOTA DE LA CANCELERIA A GUATEMALA

La Cancillería salvadoreña, con instrucciones precisas del Presidente de la República, coronel Oscar Ortiz, ha dirigido una nota al gobierno de Guatemala en relación con la expulsión de salvadoreños que se viene realizando de parte de las autoridades de la vecina República.

Extraoficialmente se nos informa que a eso se debió el viaje del coronel Jacé Alberto Funes, Embajador de El Salvador en Guatemala, quien permaneció aquí desde el lunes y se fue ayer.

Temas anejo, que iba a proceder con los datos aquellos que no tuvieron su documentación migratoria en regla. Fue así como han venido saliendo salvadoreños que tenían varios años de residencia pero que nunca se preocuparon por cumplir las Leyes de Migración.

Pero después el problema surgió en la zona fronteriza de donde han sido lanzados numerosos campesinos salvadoreños que se ganaban la vida sembrando cereales en tierras que alquilaban a guatemaltecos.

Ya ayer informaron acerca de la medida tomada contra 21 campesinos, dueños de cultivos en la frontera.

La nota enviada por el gobierno salvadoreño, se dirige tendientemente para que esos salvadoreños no sufran más dificultades y no pierdan las siembras que han hecho en su queferritorio.

24 PAGINAS
15
CENTAVOS

DIARIO LATINO
POR EL HOGAR
POR LA PATRIA

Director: Efraim MIGUEL PINTO.
Editor: MIGUEL PINTO.

San Salvador C. A., Jueves 3 de junio de 1954

Año LXIV

Nº 22,860

Redacción: JORGE PINTO
Talleres: DIARIO LATINO.